

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON IMMEDIATE

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NODIS
FOR DEPUTY SECRETARY CHRISTOPHER FROM BRIZILL

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (CHRISTOPHER, WARREN)

SUBJECT: CABLE HIGHLIGHTS - JULY 26

TRANSMITTED FOR YOUR INFORMATION ARE CABLE HIGHLIGHTS FOR
JULY 26:

1. CHOOSING UP SIDES ON THE HORN. THE EGYPTIAN MILITARY
ATTACHE IN MOGADISCIO BELIEVES: PRESIDENT SIAD IS SERIOUS
IN SEEKING TO RID HIMSELF OF SOVIET DEPENDENCY BY GRADU-
ALLY SHIFTING TO WESTERN-PROVIDED MILITARY EQUIPMENT; THE
SOMALI ARMS LIST WAS IN PART A TEST OF US INTENTIONS, AND
IN PART AN ATTEMPT TO MEET GENUINE MILITARY SHORTAGES;
AND, THE SCALE OF SOVIET MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO MENGISTU
HAS MADE IT CLEAR TO SIAD THAT THE RUSSIANS HAVE CHOSEN
SIDES.

2. SIAD'S OPTIONS: STILL OPEN. NOTWITHSTANDING CLAIMS
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THAT SIAD IS DETERMINED TO END HIS SOVIET DEPENDENCY,
AMBASSADOR LOUGHRAN DOES NOT BELIEVE THAT SOVIET/SOMALI
DIFFERENCES ARE IRRECONCILABLE AND A BREAK IS UNAVOIDABLE.
THE AMBASSADOR IS "DEEPLY SKEPTICAL" THAT WE CAN BE AS
FORTHCOMING AND GENEROUS AS SIAD WILL DEMAND.

3. FAHMY ON NEW ARMS SALES TO ISRAEL. EGYPT IS DEEPLY

CONCERNED ABOUT THE ANNOUNCED \$250 MILLION IN ARMS SALES (INCLUDING F-16S) TO ISRAEL IN LIGHT OF WHAT SADAT AND FAHMY SEE AS BEGIN'S INFLEXIBILITY ON MIDDLE EAST TALKS. EGYPT WELCOMES A "CLARIFICATION" FROM US.

4. THE NEUTRON WARHEAD: A POLITICAL BOMB IN WEST GERMANY. EFFORTS BY FRG GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS TO INSTILL A PERSPECTIVE IN THE NEUTRON BOMB DEBATE HAVE NOT ERASED THE WIDESPREAD PRESS IMPRESSION THAT WE DID NOT CONSULT WITH AN ALLY ON A MATTER DIRECTLY AFFECTING ITS SECURITY. EMBASSY BONN RECOMMENDS THAT WE CONSIDER ISSUANCE OF ANOTHER OFFICIAL STATEMENT WHICH WOULD ADDRESS SOME OF THE BUILDING HUMAN RIGHTS AND ARMS RACE CONCERNS AMONG OUR NATO ALLIES.

5. PEACE IN SOUTH LEBANON? REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PLO, LEBANON, AND SYRIA HAVE AGREED TO "IMPLEMENT" THE CAIRO ACCORD AND ESTABLISH A CEASE-FIRE IN SOUTH LEBANON STARTING JULY 30. ALTHOUGH PUBLIC OPTIMISM IS BALANCED BY PRIVATE SKEPTICISM, THE LEBANESE BELIEVE THE PALESTINI-ANS SHOULD BE GIVEN A CHANCE TO SHOW WHAT THEY MEAN. VANCE

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